

**"KARṆABHĀRA" - AN EDITION OF THE ONE-ACT PLAY  
ASCRIBED TO BHĀSA BASED ON THREE MANUSCRIPTS**

*I. Introductory Remarks*

Among the five Mahābhārata (Mbh) one-act plays ascribed to Bhāsa, "Karṇabhāra", first published by Ganapathi Shastri (GPS) in 1912, is the shortest and the least action-oriented. As has been observed by several scholars, it describes the state of mind of the hero Karṇa before his final battle with Arjuna. This battle itself is not part of the drama that ends with Karṇa's being driven to the battlefield by his charioteer Śalya. Besides the narrative of Book VIII, the Karṇaparvan, important events from other sections of the epic that ultimately predetermine Karṇa's defeat, are reported, alluded to or even transposed by the author into the time and space of the episode he choses to dramatise - for example Indra's begging Karṇa's magic earrings and armour in the Kuṇḍalāharanaparvan of Book III<sup>1</sup>.

As part of a project of collecting all the available manuscripts of the thirteen plays ascribed to Bhāsa, three Malayālam palmleaf codices were located in the 1990s that contained a one-act play on Karṇa. At that point of time all three of them were either damaged or incomplete. At least one of them had already been used by Ganapathi

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1. For a detailed comparison of the play with its epic sources see my study *Vom Epos zum Drama. Vier dem Bhāsa zugeschriebene Mahābhārata Einakter* (under preparation).

Shastri for his editio princeps of 1912 (cp. also Esposito 2000). The editor referred to two manuscripts at his disposal (ka and kha).

Although the present manuscript situation is very unsatisfactory I decided to place the material before the scholarly public. This is in continuation of my earlier article (Brückner 2000) in which I have sketched our work on the manuscripts of all the thirteen plays ascribed to Bhāsa in more detail and have added the text of *Madhyamavyāyoga* as constituted from two manuscripts. Concerning the *Kaṇva*-play, three points deserve special mention (cp. Brückner 2000, 515-517):

1.) None of the three available manuscripts contains the prologue found in the editio princeps and all subsequent editions. Only one of them has folios missing before the beginning of the *Kaṇva* play and it cannot therefore be ruled out that it may have contained a short prologue. The other two manuscripts start with the entry of the soldier, i.e. after the prologue. In one of these two manuscripts, the soldier's entry is directly preceded by an invocation to Gaṇapati that normally marks the beginning of a new play in a codex. GPS comments in the preface to his edition that besides manuscript ka which lacked beginning and end he used a second manuscript kha from which he "inserted" the missing portions. His manuscript ka could be identified as part of codex no. 22848 of the University Manuscript Library, Trivandrum and is designated as A in the following edition. In the introduction to his edition of *Svapnavāsavadatta* GPS quotes the beginnings and ends of all thirteen plays he discovered. About *Kaṇvabhāra* he remarks in a footnote: "Śihāpanā is missing in this Play" and only gives the end of the text as "Śalyaḥ:- bādham / (niṣkrāntau) kaṇvabhāram avasitam."

2.) None of the three manuscripts contains a *Bharatavākya*. Two of them conclude the play after the prose following verse 24 of the printed editions with the exit of the protagonist(s). The third manuscript lacks the end because its last folio is missing. It cannot therefore be ruled out that it originally contained a *Bharatavākya*, but, since it has been identified as ka of GPS' edition, his following remark would apply: ka pustake bharatavākyaṃ nāsti, i.e. there is no *Bharatavākya* in manuscript ka (GPS 1912, 85).

3.) None of the available manuscripts uses the title *Kaṇvabhāra* to refer to the play. In one of them, the colophon is missing, another one

gives the title as *Karṇabhāratam* in the colophon and the third one as *Karṇakavacaharaṇam*, recalling the headings in the third book of the Mbh, i.e. the *Kuṇḍalāharaṇaparvan*, also referred to as *Kavacakuṇḍa-lapradāna*.

**Manuscripts used** - Three manuscripts have been used for the following edition, designated as A, B and C respectively. A corresponds to codex 22848 J (folio 97 recto up to 98 verso) in the University Manuscript Library, Kariyavattom, Trivandrum. See Brückner 2000, 525-527 for a description of this codex. B refers to codex 3168 E in the same library (see Brückner 2000, 516). As C I have designated codex 834 O of the Sanskrit College Manuscript Library, Tripunithura. It has been described on pages 521-525 of Brückner 2000.

**Spelling conventions** - In the following edition I do not reproduce the reduplication of consonants after /r/ found in all the manuscripts. Apart from this, the conventions listed in Brückner 2000, 528 are followed. A complete account of the usages of all the manuscripts of the thirteen Trivandrum Plays can now be found in chapter II of the 2002 Tübingen Ph.D. thesis of Anna Aurelia Esposito *Das Schauspiel Cārudatta der Trivandrum-Dramen - Kritische Edition mit Anmerkungen, kommentierte Übersetzung und Studie des Prakrits der Trivandrum-Dramen* to be published shortly and which also contains a study of the Prakrit passages of all the plays.

## References and Abbreviations

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Brückner 2000 | Manuscripts and performance traditions of the so-called "Trivandrum-Plays" ascribed to Bhāsa - a report on work in progress. BEI 17-18 (1999-2000), 501-550.  |
| DEV 1957      | C. R. Devadhar, <i>Karṇabhāram</i> . A Sanskrit one act Play, Attributed to Bhāsa. Critically edited with Introduction, Notes, Translation and an Essay on "Mahābhārata-Plays: A Critical Study". Poona 1957. |
| Esposito 2000 | The two versions of <i>Dūtavākya</i> and their sources. BEI 17-18 (1999-2000), 551-562.   |
| Esposito 2002 | <i>Das Schauspiel Cārudatta der Trivandrum-Dramen - Kritische Edition mit Anmerkungen, kommentierte Überset-</i>  |

- zung und Studie des Prakrits der Trivandrum-Dramen. Dissertation Tübingen 2002.
- GPS 1912 Gaṇapati Sāstrī, T. (ed.) *The Madhyamavyāyoga, Dūtavākya, Dūtaghaṭṭaka, Kaṇabhāra and Ūrubhaṅga of Bhāsa* (Bhāsa's Works: - Nos. 6,7,8,9,10), Trivandrum 1912.

## II. Edition of *Kaṇabhāratam* / *Kaṇakavacaharaṇam*

gaṇapataye namaḥ <sup>2</sup>. (niṣkrāntaḥ) prastāvanā. (tataḥ praviśati bhaṭaḥ).

[Bhaṭaḥ] <sup>3</sup> - bho bho nivedyatām nivedyatām mahārājāyāṅgarājāya <sup>4</sup> yuddhakāla upasthita iti.

1

karituragarathasthaiḥ pārthaketoh purastān, muditaṇṇpatisimhaiḥ  
simhanādaḥ kṛto 'dya,  
tvaritam arinīnādaṇ <sup>5</sup> dussahaṇ lokavīras <sup>6</sup>, samaram adhigatārthaḥ <sup>7</sup>  
prasthito nāgaketuḥ.

2. The printed editions all have the following "Prastāvanā" taken from GPS' editio princeps and not found in the manuscript material available to me:

(nāndyante tataḥ praviśati sūtradhāraḥ) Sūtradhāraḥ -  
naramrgapativarṣmālokanabhrāntanārīnaradanujasupar(ṇa?va)vrātapātālokaḥ /  
karajakuliśapālībhinnaḍṇendrayakṣāḥ suraripubalahantā śrīdharo 'stu friye  
vaḥ ///

evam āryamiśrān vijñāpayāmi / aye kinnu khalu mayi vijñāpanavyagre śabda  
iva śrūyate / aṅga! paśyāmi / (nepathye) bho bho! nivedyatām nivedyatām  
mahārājāyāṅgeśvarāya /

Sūtradhāraḥ - bhavatu, vijñātām /  
saṅgrāme tumuḷe jāte kaṇāya kalitāñjaliḥ /  
nivedayati saṁbhrānto bhṛtyo duryodhanāñjñāyā //2//

3. When a protagonist speaks immediately after his entry the manuscripts do not always repeat his name. Thus: tataḥ praviśati bhaṭaḥ - bho bho... I have therefore put "Bhaṭaḥ" in square brackets here.

4. Reading of A and GPS ka. B: mahārājā[lac]. C sets in only after the first verse. GPS and DEV: mahārājāyāṅgeśvarāya.

5. Reading of A and B. GPS: ninā(da?dai)r. DEV: ninādair.

6. DEV: dussahālokavīraḥ.

7. B, GPS ka and DEV (fn.): abhiga°.

(vilokya) <sup>8</sup> aye eṣa aṅgarājaḥ samaraparichadaparivṛtaś śalyarājasahitaś <sup>9</sup> svabhavanān niṣkramya ita <sup>10</sup> evābhivartate. bhoḥ, kinnu khalu yuddhotsavapramukhasya dṛṣṭaparākramasyābhūtapūrvō hṛdayaparitāpaḥ. eṣa hi

2

atyugradīptiviśadas samare 'graganyaś, śaurye ca samprati saśokam <sup>11</sup> upaiti dhīmān, prāpte nidāghasamaye ghanarāśīruddha[s] <sup>12</sup>, sūryas svabhāvarucimān iva bhāti karṇaḥ.

<sup>13</sup>(tataḥ praviśati yathānirdiṣṭaḥ <sup>14</sup> karṇaś śalyaś ca)

Karṇaḥ -

3

mā tāvan mama śaramārgalakṣabhūtāḥ, kiṃ prāptāḥ <sup>15</sup> kṣitipatayas sajjīvaśeṣāḥ, kartavyam raṇaśirasi priyam kurūṇān, draṣṭavyo yadi sa bhaved dhanāñjayo me.

śalyarāja, yatrāsāv arjunas tatraiva codyatām mama rathaḥ.

Śalyaḥ - bādham. (codayati)

Karṇaḥ - aho tu khalu

4

anyonyaśastravinipātanikṛttagātrayaudhāśvavāraṇaratheṣu mahāhaveṣu,

8. Reading of A and GPS ka. B: lac. GPS: parikramya vilokya.

9. Reading of A, B, and GPS. C, starting only at this point, has śalyarājena. This reading is also adopted by DEV.

10. Sandhi is not always carried out in prose passages. GPS and DEV have niṣkramyeta.

11. A and GPS ka: sadhīram.

12. A and B: neither Visarga nor /s/.

13. Reading of A and C. B: lac. In GPS and DEV a prose sentence is uttered by the soldier after the verse and he exits: yāvad apasarpāmi (niṣkrāntaḥ). This would make more sense.

14. Reading of C, GPS kha and DEV. A and GPS ka: yathoktarūpaḥ.

15. Reading of A, B, and GPS. C and DEV: samprāptāḥ.

kruddhāntakapratimavikramiṇo mamāpi, vaidhuryam āpatati <sup>16</sup> cetasi yuddhakāle.

bhoḥ <sup>17</sup> kaṣṭam

5

pūrvam kuntyām samutpanno rādheya iti viśrutaḥ,  
yudhiṣṭhirādayas te me yavīyāṃsas tu pāṇḍavāḥ.

6

ayam sa kālāḥ kramalabdhasobhano, guṇaprakarṣo divaso 'yam āgataḥ,  
nirartham <sup>18</sup> astrāñ ca mayā hi śikṣitam, punaś ca mātur vacanena vāritaḥ.

bho <sup>19</sup> madrarāja, <sup>20</sup> śrūyatām mamāstrasya vṛttāntaḥ.

Śalyaḥ - mamāpy asti kautūhalam enaṃ vṛttāntaṃ śrotum.

Karṇaḥ - pūrvam evāhañ <sup>21</sup> jāmādagnyasya sakāśam <sup>22</sup> gatavāñ asmi.

Śalyaḥ - tatas tataḥ?

Karṇaḥ - tataḥ <sup>23</sup>

7

vidyullatākapilatuṅgajātākālāpam udyatprabhāvalayinam paraśun  
dadhānam,

kṣatrāntakaṃ munivaram bhṛguvaṃśaketuṃ gatvā praṇamya nikaṭe  
nibhṛtaḥ sthito 'smi.

Śalyaḥ - tatas tataḥ?

16. A: āpatita.

17. GPS comments that a stage direction "svagatam" would be in place before "bhoḥ".

18. C and DEV fn.: nirastam.

19. GPS notes that a stage direction "prakāśam" would be in place before "bho".

20. C and DEV read "śalyarāja".

21. A: "aham" missing.

22. A: jāmādagnyasakāśam.

23. B adds: tatas taṃ bhagavantaṃ praṇamya kṛtāñjali[laḥ]. GPS kha has the same addition and continues: kṛtāñjaliḥ sthito 'smi. tataḥ.

Karṇaḥ - tatas tena <sup>24</sup> jāmāgnena <sup>25</sup> mamāśirvacanan datvā prṣṭo  
'smi. ko bhavān, kimartham ihāgata iti.

Śalyaḥ - tatas tataḥ?

Karṇaḥ - bhagavann, akhilāny <sup>26</sup> astrāṇy upaśikṣitum icchāmīty  
uktavān asmi.

Śalyaḥ - tatas tataḥ?

Karṇaḥ - tata ukto 'haṃ bhagavatā brāhmaṇeṣāpadeśaṃ kariṣyāmi, na  
kṣatriyānām iti.

Śalyaḥ - asti khalu bhagavataḥ kṣatriyavaṃśyaiḥ pūrvavairam. tatas  
tataḥ?

Karṇaḥ - nāhaṃ <sup>27</sup> kṣatriya iti astropadeśaṃ grahitum ārabdham  
mayā. <sup>28</sup>

Śalyaḥ - tatas tataḥ?

Karṇaḥ - tataḥ katipayakālāukrame <sup>29</sup> kadācit phalamūlasamitkuśaku-  
sumāharaṇāya gatavatā guruṇā sahānugato 'smi. <sup>30</sup> tatas sa gurur  
vanabhramaṇa pariśramān madaṅke nidrāvaśam upagataḥ.

Śalyaḥ - tatas tataḥ? <sup>31</sup>

24. C and DEV: tena missing.

25. A, C: jāmāgninā. B: lac. GPS: jāmāda(gninā?gnycna).

26. B and GPS kha: nikhilāny.

27. Reading of A and B. C: lac. GPS and DEV: tato nāhaṃ.

28. Reading of C and DEV. A, B, GPS and DEV fn.: ārabdhaḥ.

29. GPS kha: divasa for kāla.

30. C and DEV insert another response by Śalya here: Śalyaḥ - tatas tataḥ.

Karṇaḥ - tatas sa gurur ...

31. A: sentence missing.

Karṇaḥ - tataḥ

8

kṛtte vajramukhena nārma kṛmīṇā daivān mamorudvaye  
nidrācchedabhayād asahyata guror dhairyāt tadā vedanā,  
utthāya kṣatajāplutaḥ <sup>32</sup> sa sahasā roṣānaloddīpto  
buddhvā mān ca śaśāpa kālaviṣṭhāny astrāṇi te santv iti.

Śalyaḥ - aho kaṣṭam abhīhitam tatrabhavatā.

Karṇaḥ - parīkṣāmahe tāvad astrasya vṛttāntam. (tathā kṛtvā) etāny  
astrāṇi nirvīryāṇīva lakṣyante. api ca

9

ime hi dainyena nimīletekṣaṇā, muhuḥ skhalanto vivaśās turaṅgamāḥ,  
gajāś ca saptacchadadānagandhino, nivedayantīva raṇe nivartanam.

śaṅkhaḥ undubhayaś ca niśśabdāḥ.

Śalyaḥ - bhoḥ kaṣṭam khalv <sup>33</sup> idam.

Karṇaḥ - śalyarāja, alam alam viśādena,

10 <sup>34</sup>

hato 'pi labhate svargaṇ, jītvā tu <sup>35</sup> labhate yaśaḥ,  
ubhe bahumate loke, nāsti niṣphalatā raṇe.

api ca

11

ime hi yuddheṣv anivartitāśā, hayās suparṇena samānavegāḥ,  
śrīmatṣu kāmbojakuleṣu jātā <sup>36</sup>, rakṣantu mām <sup>37</sup> yadyapi rakṣitavyam. <sup>38</sup>

32. GPS kha: kṣatajokṣitaḥ.

33. C and DEV: kinnu khalv.

34. Vgl. BhG II.37.

35. B: lac. GPS kha: jītvāpi.

36. C and DEV: jātāḥ.

37. Reading of A, C, DEV and GPS fn. B: lac. GPS and DEV fn.: rakṣanty imā.

38. Woolner and Sarup note in their translation that they read: rakṣantu mā yadyapy arakṣitavyam. See A.C. Woolner & Lakshman Sarup, *Thirteen Plays of Bhāsa*, transl. into English. 2 vols. Bound in one, Delhi 1985 [Lahore 1930], vol. II, p. 36, fn. 2.



akṣayo 'stu gobrāhmaṇānām. akṣayo 'stu pativratānām. akṣayo 'stu  
raṇeṣu <sup>39</sup> aparāṇmukhānām yaudhapuruṣāṇām. akṣayo 'stu mama  
prāptakālasya. eṣa bhoḥ <sup>40</sup>

12

samaramukham asahyam pāṇḍavāṇām praviśya  
pratithaguṇagaṇādhyam dharmarājaṇ ca baddhvā,  
mama śaravaravegair arjunam pātayitvā  
vanam iva hatasimham supraveśam karomi.

śalyarāja, yāvad ratham ārohāvah.

Śalyaḥ - bādham. (ubhau rathārohaṇan nāṭayataḥ)

Karṇaḥ - śalyarāja <sup>41</sup>, yatrāsāv arjunas tatraiva codyatām mama rathaḥ.

(naipathye) bho karṇa <sup>42</sup>, mahattaram bhikkham yācemi.

Karṇaḥ - (ākarma) aye, vīryavāṇ chabdaḥ.

13

śrīmān eṣa <sup>43</sup> kevalan dvijavaro yasmāt prabhāvo mahān <sup>44</sup>,  
ākarma svaram asya dhīramadhuraṇ <sup>45</sup> citrārpitāṅgā iva,  
utkarṇastimitāñcitākṣi <sup>46</sup> valitagrīvārpitāgrānanās  
tiṣṭhanty asvavaśāṅgayasṭi sahasā yānto mamaite hayāḥ.

āhūyatām sa vipraḥ. na na. aham evāhvayāmi. bhagavann, ita itaḥ.

(tataḥ praviśati brāhmaṇarūpeṇa śakraḥ )

39. A and GPS ka: "raṇeṣu" missing.

40. GPS kha and DEV have "eṣa bhoḥ prasanno 'smi", missing in A and C. B: lac. GPS notes that kha inserts another sentence "aye śabda iva" and the text of verse 24 at this point.

41. C: missing.

42. A and C: karṇa. C: "karṇa" corrected into "karṇa".

43. Reading of B, C and DEV. A: lac. GPS: eva,

44. C: bhavān.

45. C and DEV: dhīraninadam.

46. Reading of A and C. B: lac. GPS: (kṣi?kṣa). DEV: kṣa.

Śakraḥ - bho meghās <sup>47</sup>, sūryeṇaiva nivartya gacchantu bhavantaḥ.  
(kaṇaṃ upagāmya) bho kaṇṇa <sup>48</sup>, mahattaraṃ bhikkhaṃ yācemi.

Kaṇṇaḥ - dṛḍham prīto 'smi bhagavan,

14

yātaḥ kṛtārthagāṇanām aham adya loke, rājendramaulimaṇirañjitapā-  
dapadmaḥ,  
viprendrapādarajasā tu pavitramauliḥ, kaṇṇo bhavantam aham eṣa  
namaskaromi.

Śakraḥ - (ātmagatam) kinnu khalu mayā vaktavyam? yadi dīrghāyur  
bhaveti vakṣye dīrghāyur bhaviṣyati. yadi na vakṣye mūḍha iti mām  
paribhavati. tasmād ubhayam parihr̥tya kinnu khalu vakṣyāmi. bhava-  
tu, dṛṣṭam. (prakāśam) <sup>49</sup> bho kaṇṇa, suyye via, cande via, himavan-  
te <sup>50</sup> via, sāgaḷe <sup>51</sup> via ciṭṭhadu <sup>52</sup> de jaso. <sup>53</sup>

Kaṇṇaḥ - bhagavan, kin na vaktavyan dīrghāyur bhaveti. athavā etad  
eva śobhanam. kutaḥ -

15

dharmo hi yatnaiḥ puruṣeṇa sādhyo bhujaṅgajihvācapalā nṛpaśriyaḥ,  
tasmāt prajāpālanamātrabuddhyā hateṣu deheṣu guṇā dharante.

bhagavan, kim icchasi, kim aham dadāmi?

Śakraḥ - mahattaraṃ bhikkhaṃ yācemi.

Kaṇṇaḥ - mahattarāṃ bhikṣāṃ bhavate pradāsyē. śrūyantām mad-  
vibhavāḥ.

16

guṇavad amṛtakalpakṣīradhārābhivarṣi

47. GPS explains: svavāhanabhūtān meghān ādiśati - bho ityādīnā.

48. A: lac. B: kaṇṇa.

49. This and the previous stage direction are missing in C.

50. B, C: himavade.

51. B and GPS kha: sāgaḷe.

52. B: etthami[...]. C: ettha ciṭṭhadu.

53. B: lac.

dvijavara rucitan te tṛptavatsānuyātram <sup>54</sup>  
taruṇam adhikam arthiprārthanīyam pavitram  
vihitakanakaśṛṅgam gosahasraṇ dadāmi.

Śakraḥ - gosahassanti. <sup>55</sup> muhuttaṃ khīraṃ <sup>56</sup> pibāmi. ṇecchāmi  
kaṇṇa ṇecchāmi.

Karṇaḥ - kin necchati bhagavān? <sup>57</sup> idam api śrūyatām.

17  
ravituragasamānam sādhanam rājalakṣmyāḥ, sakalanṛpatimānyam  
mānyakāmbojajātam,  
suguṇam anilavegam yuddhadṛṣṭāpadānam, sapadi bahusahasraṃ  
vājinān te dadāmi.

Śakraḥ - assatti. muhuttaṃ āluhāmi. ṇecchāmi kaṇṇa, ṇecchāmi.

Karṇaḥ - kin necchati bhagavān? <sup>58</sup> anyad api śrūyatām.

18  
madasaritakapolam śatpadaḥ sevyamānam  
gīrivaranicayābham meghagambhīraghoṣam,  
sītanakhadaśanānām vāraṇānām anekam  
ripusamaravimardam vṛndam etad dadāmi.

Śakraḥ - gaatti. <sup>59</sup> muhuttaṃ āluhāmi. <sup>60</sup> ṇecchāmi kaṇṇa, ṇecchā-  
mi. <sup>61</sup>

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54. Reading of C and DEV. B and GPS kha: anuyātam. GPS and DEV fu.:  
anupātām.

55. Spelling of A and C. B: lac. GPS and DEV: 'ṃ 'tti.

56. Reading of C. B: lac. A, GPS, DEV: khīraṃ.

57. C and DEV: bhavān.

58. C: bhavān.

59. Reading of C. B: lac. A: gaanti.

60. A and B add the stage direction "āruhyāvaruhyā". A adds "ca". GPS kha:  
āruhyāvalokya.

61. C: Sentence missing.

Karṇaḥ - <sup>62</sup>kin necchati bhagavān? <sup>63</sup>anyad api śrūyatām, paryāptam <sup>64</sup>kanakan dadāmi.

Śakraḥ - gaṇṇia gacchāmi. (kiñcid gatvā) ṇecchāmi kaṇṇa, ṇecchāmi.

Karṇaḥ - kin necchati bhavān? tena hi jītvā pṛthivīm dadāmi.

Śakraḥ - puhuvīe kiṃ karissam?

Karṇaḥ - tena hy agniṣṭhomaphalan dadāmi.

Śakraḥ - aggiṣṭhomaphaleṇa <sup>65</sup>kiṃ kayyam?

Karṇaḥ - tena hi macchiro dadāmi.

Śakraḥ - aṇihā avihā!

Karṇaḥ - na bhetavyam, na bhetavyam, prasīdatu bhagavān. <sup>66</sup>anyad api śrūyatām. <sup>67</sup>

19

aṅgaḥ sahaiva janitam <sup>68</sup>mama deharakṣā <sup>69</sup>  
devāsuraḥ <sup>70</sup>api na bhedyam idaṃ sahāstraiḥ,  
deyaṇ tathāpi kavacaṃ saha kuṇḍalābhyām  
prītyā mayā bhagavate <sup>71</sup>rucitam yadi <sup>72</sup>syāt.

62. B does not have the following passage and continues with "tena hi jītvā" in Karṇa's next speech.

63. A and GPS ka skip the following sentences and continue with: tena hi jītvā.

64. Reading of B (see below) and C. A (see below), GPS and DEV: aparyāptam.

65. A and GPS ka: "teṇa" instead of "aggiṣṭom".

66. C: prasīdatu prasīdatu bhavān. A and GPS ka after bhagavān: aparyāptam kanakam dadāmi. Śakraḥ - āṇiya gacchāmi, ṇecchāmi kaṇṇa, ṇecchāmi. Karṇaḥ - anyad api...

67. B adds after śrūyatām: paryāptam kanaka[...] da[...]d api śrūyatām.

68. A: janitena. GPS ka: janitau.

69. A and GPS ka: deharakṣau.

70. A: daivāsuraḥ.

71. Reading of C and DEV. GPS and DEV fn.: bhagavato. (A: bhagavatata(?)).  
B: lac.

72. A: yadā.

Śakraḥ - (saharṣam) dedu dedu.

Karaṇaḥ - (ātmagatam) eṣa evāsyā <sup>73</sup> kāmāḥ. kinnu khalv anekakapata-buddheḥ <sup>74</sup> kṛṣṇasyopāyaḥ. so 'pi bhavatu. dhig ayuktam anuśocitum. nāsti saṁśayaḥ. <sup>75</sup> (prakāśam) gr̥hyatām.

Śalyaḥ - aṅgarāja, na dātavyam, na dātavyam.

Karaṇaḥ - śalyarāja, alam alaṁ vārayitum. paśya  
20

śilā <sup>76</sup> kṣayaṁ gacchati kālāparyayāt, subaddhamūlā nīpatanti pādapāḥ, jalaṁ jalasthānagataṁ ca śuśyati, butaṁ ca dattaṁ ca tathaiva tiṣṭhati.

tasmād gr̥hyatām. (nikṛtya dadāti)

Śakraḥ - (gr̥hītvā, ātmagatam <sup>77</sup>) hanta <sup>78</sup>, gr̥hīte ete <sup>79</sup>. pūrvam evāha <sup>80</sup> arjunavijayārthaṁ sarvadevair mayā <sup>81</sup> samarthitam idam anuṣṭhitam. tasmād aham apy airāvatam āruhya matputrayor arjunakarmaṇayor <sup>82</sup> dvandvayuddham paśyāmi. (niṣkrāntaḥ <sup>83</sup>)

Śalyaḥ - bho aṅgarāja, vañcitaḥ khalu <sup>84</sup> bhavān.

Karaṇaḥ - kena?

73. Reading of C. A,B: eṣa vāsyā.

74. C: khalv eka°.

75. C: sentence missing. B: lac.

76. Reading of B. A, GPS, DEV: śikṣā.

77. C: "ātmagatam" after "ete".

78. A,B: "hanta" missing.

79. A,B: gr̥hīta ete.

80. Reading of A. B and C: pūrvam evāham arjuna°. GPS, DEV: pūrvam evā (ham a?)rjuna°.

81. Reading of A and C. B: lac. C: "māyā" instead of "mayā". Reading of GPS and DEV: sarvadevair yat samarthitaṁ tad idānīm mayānuṣṭhitam.

82. A and GPS ka: matputrayor arjuna[...] dvandvayuddham. B: matputrayor dvandvayuddham. DEV: arjunakarmaṇayor dvandvayuddham. GPS arjunakarmaṇayor yuddhaviśeṣam.

83. C: niṣkrāntaś śakraḥ.

84. A: lac. GPS ka: vañcito bhavān.

Śalyaḥ - śakraṇa.

Karṇaḥ - na khalu. śakraḥ khalu mayā vañcitatḥ. kutaḥ?

21

anekayajñāhutitarpito dvijaiḥ, kirīṭimān dānavasaṅghamardanaḥ,  
suradvīpāspḥālanakarkaśāṅgulir <sup>85</sup>, mayā kṛtārthaḥ khalu pākaśāsa-  
naḥ.

(praviśya brāhmaṇarūpeṇa devadūtaḥ)

[Brahmaṇaḥ] - bho karṇa, kavacakuṇḍalagrahaṇāt sañjātapaścāttā-  
pena <sup>86</sup> purandareṇānugṛhīto 'si. pāṇḍaveṣv ekapuruṣavadhārtham  
amogham astram vimalā nāma śaktir iyam pratigṛhyatām. <sup>87</sup>

Karṇaḥ - <sup>88</sup>dattasya na pratigṛhṇāmi.

Brāhmaṇaḥ <sup>89</sup> - na, na, <sup>90</sup> brāhmaṇavacanād gṛhyatām.

Karṇaḥ - brāhmaṇavacanam iti na mayātikrāntapūrvam. kadā labheya? <sup>91</sup>

Brāhmaṇaḥ - yadā smarasi tadā labhasva.

Karṇaḥ - bādham, anugṛhīto 'smi. pratinivartatām bhavān.

Brāhmaṇaḥ - bādham (niṣkrāntaḥ).

Karṇaḥ - śalyarāja, yāvad ratham ārohāvaḥ.

85. A: "sura" ist the last word on folio 98. The following folio is missing, i.e. A ends here.

86. Reading of B, C (and DEV): °grahaṇāj janitapaścāt°.

87. Reading of C (and DEV). B: lac. GPS: gṛhyatām.

88. GPS, DEV: dhig. B: lac.

89. Reading of B, C and GPS ka. GPS: Devadūta.

90 Reading of B,C and GPS ka. GPS, DEV: nanu.

91. B,C: labheyam.

Śalyaḥ - bādham (ubhau rathārohaṇan nāṭayataḥ <sup>92</sup>).

Karṇaḥ - aye, śabda iva <sup>93</sup>. kinnu khalv idam?

22

śaṅkhadhvaniḥ praḷayasāgaraghoṣatulyaḥ <sup>94</sup>

kṛṣṇasya vā na tu bhavet sa tu <sup>95</sup> phalgunasya,

nūnaṃ yudhiṣṭhiraparājayakopitātmā

pārthaḥ kariṣyati yathābalaṃ adya yuddham.

śalyarāja, yatrāsāv arjunaḥ tatraiva codyatām mama rathaḥ.

Śalyaḥ - bādham. <sup>96</sup> (niṣkrāntau) <sup>97</sup>

karnabhāratam samāptaṃ ca. <sup>98</sup>

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92. C: ratham āruhataḥ.

93. Reading of C. B: lac. GPS, DEV: śabda iva śrūyate.

94. C and GPS ka: tulyaghoṣaḥ.

95. C: bhaved yadi.

96. There is no Bharatavākyaṃ in B and C. Concerning A, GPS notes: ka pustake bharatavākyaṃ nāsti, i.e. there is no Bharatavākyaṃ in manuscript ka.

97. C: niṣkrāntaḥ.

98. B: karnakavacaharaṇam s[...].